Vol. 4. Numb. 18.

THE REHEARSAL.

1. The *Presbyterians* in *England* Deny that any *Clergy-man* in *Scotland* has his *Meeting-House* Shut up who *Swore* and *Pray'd*. And put the *Cause* upon it.
2. Some *Instances* given to the Contrary. They Prosecute the *People* for having their Children *Baptiz'd* by *Clergy-Men*. And turn the *Laws* made against the *Presbyterians* to be now against *Episcopacy*.
3. The *Clergy* are Requir'd to Renounce their *Function*, or go to *Prison*.
4. The *Presbyterian* Preachers *Holloo* the *Magistrates* against the *Clergy*.

WEDNESDAY, *December* 8. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man.* I Have been Pay'd off, *Master*, for yours of *Saturday* sennight, *Num.* 16. Wherein you told me, That those of the *Episcopal Clergy* in *Scotland* who have *Qualify'd* themselves as to the *Civil Government*, by taking the *Oath* of *Allegiance* with the *Assurance*, which is there Requir'd; And likewise who *Pray* for Queen *Anne* in Expres's words, are *Prosecuted*, and their *Meeting-Houses* Shut up, as well as of those who have done neither. For speaking of this I have been call'd a *Lyer* an Abominable *Lyar*— They bid me *Name*, *Name*, do but *Name* any *One*, that has been so Us'd, and We will yield all that the Grand *Lyar* your *Master* has said against the Honest and Moderate *Dissenters*; who, if they had the *Power*, wou'd (no Doubt!) shew all that *Lenity*, and *Moderation* to the *Church* of *England* (if she were under the *Law*, as the *Church* in *Scotland* is) that is now shew'd by the *Kirk* to those of the *Episcopal* persuasion there. For they say, God forbid that any shou'd be *Persecuted* for Meer *Conscience* sake, and for Worshipping God in that Manner they think most Agreeable to Him! And they Boast of the *Moderation* of the *Kirk* in *Scotland* to the *Episcopal Clergy* there, and are willing to be Measur'd themselves by the Carriage of their *Brethren* in *Scotland*; Therefore they say, That every thing spoken of the *Kirk* in *Scotland* do's Affect the *Dissenters* here. And that you tell nothing but *Lies* of them. And they bid me never Believe one Word you say more, for that you cannot give one *Instance*, of what you have so *Maliciously* Suggested. Therefore, *Master*, if you Cannot furnish me with the Name of some one *Clergy-man* in *Scotland*, who has *Qualify'd* as you say, and has been us'd as you tell me, I must Quit the *Coffee-Houses*, and shew my Face no more in *London*. And I wou'd Entreat you, for your own sake, to be very Cautious in taking any thing upon Trust, for if you are Detected in but the *Circumstance* of a Story, they will make such a *Clamour* of it, as if nothing you say were to be Believ'd. Therefore I must Call upon you, as they do upon me, Come, *Name*— *Name*— *Name* but one *Clergy-man* in *Scotland* so Treated as you say— or Adieu, *Master*, for ever—

(2.) *Rehearsal.* For the Present, Name to them, Mr. *Adam Peacock*, Mr. *Patrick Middleton*, and Mr. *Alexander Heriot*. And Mr. *Heriot*'s Meeting-House in *Musselbrugh* is not only *Shut up* (tho' he has *Qualify'd* in all Points as I have said) but the Episcopal *People* there are *Prosecuted* for having their Children *Baptiz'd* by him.

Country-m. O *Strange!* Will they not suffer the Episcopal *Dissenters* there to have their Children *Baptiz'd* their own way? *Master*, are you sure of this?

Rehearsal. Here, read that *Letter*; it is from one that I can Trust. And if it be not True, the *Observator* (you may be sure) will not Fail to let us know it. It bears *Date* the 13 last *Month*, I will give it you in the very words, only Explain in a *Parenthesis* some Scots *Law-Terms* are in it.

" The *Meeting-House* of *Stirling*, that of " *Cooper* in *Fife*, of *Dundee*, of *Perth*, of " *Musselbrugh*, and *Tranent*, and a great ma- " ny more are shut up and stopt. But " that the *Clergy* may not be the only " Objects of this Persecution, they turn " them against the *People*, and a *Process* " has been Intented (that is, *Commenc'd* or " *Issu'd*) against some of the People of " *Musselbrugh* for *Baptizing* their Children " with Mr *Heriot*. And the Process was " Tabled (that is Prosecuted) before the " Sheriff of *Louthian*, and the Libell found-

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" ed upon those Acts of Parliament that " Condemn'd the Separation from the Or- " thodox and *Episcopal* Clergy. And in- " deed this Appear'd by the Debate in " open Court to be such a Perverting of " the Laws from the True and Genuine " Meaning, and a visible Stretch of the " Law, that the Sheriff was forc'd to Desert " the Dyet (that is, to Dismiss the *Suit*) " and let the Process fall. But they say " they will Revive it, and Insist upon the " Head. This is a Matter of Fact, and " can be Instructed (that is, Prov'd) be- " yond all Contradiction.

Country-m. What! To bring the *Laws* which were for *Episcopacy*, to Turn now Against it!——

(4.) *Rehearf.* Hold, *Country-man*, I see you begin to be *Angry*—— But I will not let you loose yet. Take the Matter all toge- ther, which you will see in *A Narrative of the late Treatment of the Episcopal Mini- sters within the City of Edinburgh since March last* 1708. *Untill their Imprisonment*, &c. Printed and Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall.* 1708. There p. 4. 5. You will see the *Sentence* pass'd by the Lord *Provost* and *Magistrates* of *Edinburgh* against these *Clergy-Men* the 13 of *March* last, which Prohibites them from *Preaching or Exercing* (that is, Exercising) *any Part of the Ministerial Function, in all Time coming, under the Pain of Imprisonment, and to find Caution* (that is Baile) *for that Effect betwixt this and the* 30 *of March Instant; and in the Mean time Decerned and Ordained their re- spective Meeting-Houses to be forthwith Shut up*, &c. And when they were Call'd upon after the time limited for them to give this *Baile* or *Security*, they were particu- larly Examin'd whether they had *Baptiz'd* any *Child* since the *Sentence* pass'd upon them, or Exercis'd any Part of their *Mini- stry.* To which not being able to Answer in the Negative, they were sent to *Prison.* One of them who had only Preach'd privat- ly in his own House, Pleaded for himself that he Pray'd for the *Queen* by Name. But he was told by the Lord *Provost*, That this was not the Question. And tho' he was not *Imprison'd* with the Rest, yet the very *Sunday* following he was Discharg'd from Preaching in his own House, and hindered by Arm'd *Soldiers.*

Country-m. Will you let me go now? *Master.* I can hardly Hold!

(4.) *Rehearf.* Bridle your *Passion* a little longer *Country-man*, till I *Saddle* the Right *Horse.* See what the same *Letter* says,

" The Presbyterian Preachers are now " so Bare-fac'd in their Promoting this " Violence against the *Clergy* in the Coun- " try, that they have the Impudence to " *Require* the *Justices* of the *Peace* and o- " ther *Magistrates* to Execute the Laws a- " gainst the *Episcopal Clergy.* And this is " so certain a Truth, that the Laird of " *D*—— Was a Justice of Peace, and the " *Sheriff Depute* of *Perth* was one of the " *Magistrates*, who were thus Treated by " them. For these *Preachers* did not do " this in their own Names only, but were " sent in the Name of the *Brethren* by the " *Presbyteries* and *Synods.*

Country-m. They are us'd to *Bully* the *Civil Government*, and *Require* them to Do what they think fit. I'm glad you stopt me, before I told my Mind to these *Ma- gistrates.* But now I see who *Hollows* them on, and Consider the Power of the *Kirk* there, and that these *Magistrates* have none to Stand by them, if they shou'd shew any Mercy to *Episcopacy*, I'll turn my *Edge* ano- ther way. For I have a *Question* or two to Ask yet. That is, next time.

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